

## Individual Narrative of Martha<sup>5</sup> Leverich [23] Wife of Samuel Gorsline

Martha Leverich was born circa 1724 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. Martha was the daughter of William Leverich and Martha Way, who were married in 1722. Martha would have been born before 1729, assuming she was at least age 21 when she was married in 1750. Circumstantial evidence suggests that Martha was likely the first born of four daughters, being named after her mother. Martha and her husband are named first in a deed selling the family farm in 1758.<sup>1,2</sup>

Martha Leverich married Samuel Gorsline, son of Jose Gorsline and Elizabeth Alburdis, on 3 Mar 1750 at Newtown, Queens, New York, at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>3</sup> Samuel Gorsline was born at Newtown about 1723. Samuel would have been born before 1729, assuming he was at least age 21 at the time of his marriage in 1750.<sup>4</sup>

On 18 April 1754 at the New York County Surrogate Court, Letters of Administration on the estate of William Leverich of Newtown, Queens Co, carpenter were granted to his widow Martha. Bonds were posted by Martha Leverich, widow; Samuel Gorsline, mason; and Richard Penfold, farmer; all of Newtown.<sup>5</sup>

On 26 May 1755, Jacob Blackwell of Newtown prepared a list of negroes in Queens County, pursuant to an Act of the Assembly of the Province of New York. This list records 1 negro belonging to Samuel Gorsline.<sup>6</sup>

A deed was executed on 20 April 1758 selling the 105 acre William Leverich farm at Hellsgate to Halimous Wycoff, yeoman of Newtown. The grantors were Martha Leverich, widow of William Leverich, Samuel Gorsline and Martha his wife, Richard Penfold and Mary his wife, Ruth and Sarah Leverich, all of Newtown. The deed was recorded on 3 January 1759.<sup>7</sup>

On 9 November 1772, Joost Gorsline of Newtown, father of Samuel Gorsline, prepared his will, which was proved 2 December 1772. The will named his wife Martha, and children Samuel, Jacob, John, William, Joseph, James, Daniel, Elizabeth wife of Francis Way, Judith, Thomas, and Benjamin. The will also named children of deceased son Richard, and children of deceased daughter Mary, the wife of Thomas Swarhout.<sup>8</sup>

A List of tax-payers of the original town of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York includes the name of Samuel Gorsline for the years 1775, 1777-1779. Also included in the same time period are Samuel's brothers James, William, and Daniel.<sup>9</sup>

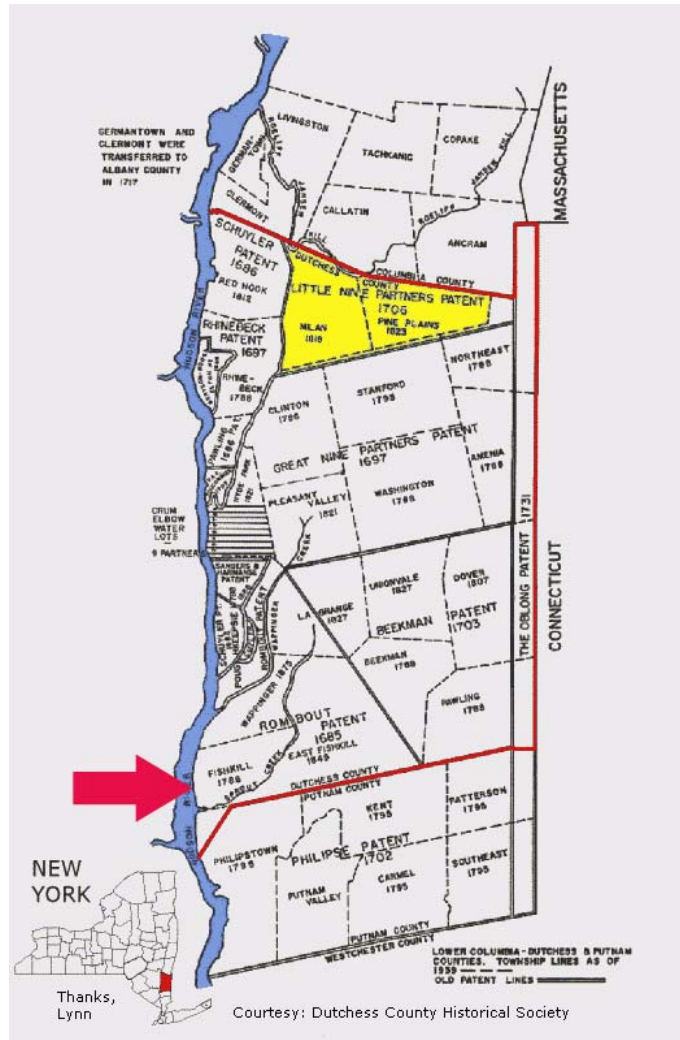
A return made August 15, 1775 at the house of Jacob Griffin in Dutchess County New York, of persons who signed the Articles of Association, includes Samuel Gorsline and his son in law George Adriance.<sup>10,11</sup>

During the revolutionary war, a Samuel Gorsline served in the 2nd Regiment Dutchess County New York Militia. A Samuel Gorsline is also recorded as enlisted with the 8th Company of the New York Line of the Continental Army: 1 January 1777 to 1 January 1780. This Samuel could have been Samuel, husband of Martha Leverich; or Samuel, son of Samuel and Martha; or Samuel Gorsline, son of William, brother of Samuel husband of Martha Leverich.<sup>12</sup>

In 1818, a Samuel Gorsline of Saratoga County, New York made application for a revolutionary war pension, citing three years of service as a private, Capt Lee's Co, 5th Line Regiment commanded by Col. Lewis Dubois (Dubois) of New York. This Samuel Gorsline was likely the son of William Gorsline, a brother of Samuel Leverich who married Martha Leverich.<sup>13</sup> On 22 August 1934, Samuel Gilbert Gorsline of River Forest Illinois made application to the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) citing his ancestor Samuel Gorsline, husband of Martha Leverich, and the service of Samuel Gorsline in the 5th Line Regiment of the Continental Army. Although this Samuel Gorsline may well have been a revolutionary war veteran, it is unlikely it was in the 5th Line Regiment, that service having been performed by a nephew of Samuel Gorsline, husband of Martha Leverich.<sup>14</sup>

*Species Certificates for Revolutionary War Service 1780-1782* records that Samuel Gorsline was paid \$6.48 on 15 April 1781 for pasturing 55 public horses 1 day at 1/8 dollars per day.<sup>15</sup>

Martha Leverich Gorsline died between 1767 and 1782 at Dutchess County, New York. No specific date or place of death or burial have been found. Martha's youngest child would have been born about 1767, and she is not mentioned in her husband's will proved in 1782.<sup>16</sup> Samuel Gorsline, farmer of Rumbout Precinct in Dutchess County, prepared his will on 15 May 1782. The will does not name a wife, but names children Samuel, Martha, William, Elizabeth, Sarah, Ruth, James, Richard, and Jose. The will provided that son Richard was to have one year of schooling, and son Jose was to have three years of schooling, at the expense of the estate. The will was proved 7 November 1782. The executors were sons Samuel, William, and Richard Gorsline, and son-in-law George Adriance.<sup>17,18</sup>



[http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nylnphs/Images/L9P\\_MAP.GIF](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nylnphs/Images/L9P_MAP.GIF)

*The New York Packet* of 20 March 1783 advertised that the farm of Samuel Gorsline was to be sold in Fishkill. The ad was placed by Samuel, William, and Richard Gorsline, and George Adriance, executors of the will of Samuel Gorsline.<sup>19</sup> On 25 September 1784, the executors of the estate of Samuel Gorsline summoned Thomas Gorsline of Newtown, Queens County, New York regarding a debt owed to Thomas Gorsline by the estate. On 15 October 1784, the executors of the estate sued Thomas Lawrence.<sup>20,21</sup>

Martha Leverich and Samuel Gorsline had nine children.

- i. c 1751 Samuel Gorsline. Greenbush, Rensselaer Co, New York; married Tabitha Calkins.
- ii. c 1752 Martha Gorsline. Mentioned in father's will. No further record.
- iii. c 1755 William Gorsline. Greenbush, Rensselaer Co, New York; married Elizabeth
- iv. ( ? ).
- v. c 1757 Elizabeth Gorsline. Rensselaer County and Albany County, New York; married George Adriance.
- vi. c 1759 Sarah Gorsline. Mentioned in father's will. No further record.
- vii. c 1761 Ruth Gorsline. Lycoming County, Pennsylvania and Steuben County, New York. Married Henry Southard.
- viii. c 1763 James Gorsline. Mentioned in father's will. 1790 Dutchess County, New York. No further record.
- ix. c 1765 Richard Gorsline. Hillsdale, Columbia County, New York; Lexington, Greene County, New York. Married-1 Anna Southard; married-2 Lavinia Scherer.
- x. c 1767 Jose Gorsline. Mentioned in father's will. No further record.<sup>22,23</sup>

Samuel Gilbert Gorsline of Battle Creek, Michigan was a third great grandson of Samuel Leverich and Martha Leverich <Samuel G, William H, Samuel G, Gilbert, Richard, Samuel and Martha>. Samuel G Gorsline was an early researcher of the Gorsline Family. On December 10, 1942 he produced a "Gorsline Family Chart". The information cited in this document incorrectly identifies three of the children of Samuel and Martha Leverich.

William Gorsline is identified as the husband of Judith Way having removed to Athens Co, Ohio. Available evidence identifies William Gorsline, son of Samuel Gorsline and Martha Leverich, as the husband of Elizabeth, living in Rensselaer Co, New York with his brother Samuel, and brother-in-law George Adriance. The identity of the parents of William Gorsline who married Judith Way has not been established.

James Gorsline is identified as the husband of Martha Gorsline, married at the Presbyterian Church Jamaica, Queens Co, NY in 1784. Circumstantial evidence however suggests that the James Gorsline who married Martha Gorsline was the son of James Gorsline, brother of the Samuel Gorsline who married Martha Leverich, and husband of Kezia Thurston. Martha Gorsline was the daughter of Joseph Gorsline (see his will in Queens County, NY in 1822), also a brother of Samuel married Martha Leverich, and husband of Sarah Leverich, sister of Martha Leverich. The latter premise would make Joseph Gorsline and Martha Gorsline first cousins, whereas the former premise would make them double first cousins.

Joseph (aka Josse) Gorsline is identified as the husband of Mary (aka Peddie) Gilbert. *The History of Lycoming County, Pennsylvania* identifies this Joseph's birth date as 1745 and his marriage date as 1767. Josse Gorsline, youngest child of Samuel Gorsline and Martha Leverich was born about 1767.<sup>24,25</sup>

Lyle Arthur Gorsline of Alberta, Canada has specialized in the Canadian Branch of the Gorsline Family. His web site at familytreemaker.com in 2010 also presents a register report for the descendants of Josse Gorsline of Newtown, Queens Co, New York. Lyle Gorsline repeats the assertions of Samuel Gilbert Gorsline regarding William and Joseph (Josse), sons of Samuel Gorsline and Martha Leverich. Lyle does not repeat Samuel's assertion regarding James and Martha Gorsline.<sup>26,27</sup>

Lyndon Perry hosts a web site entitled *Gorsline Family History* at <http://gorslinefamilyhistory.blogspot.com/>.<sup>28</sup>

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Biographical Record: 55 (1924) 162-167, 281-291, 383-400; 56 (1925) 73-83, 173-187, 353-359. Subsequently published in *Collections NY G&B Society*, Volume 8. Original transcript is part of the NYG&B Manuscript Collections, which are now held by the New York Public Library, Archives Division. The original Church records remain at the Church, 54-05 Seabury Street Queens Blvd and 54th Avenue, Elmhurst, Queens County, New York.

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup>Arthur White, "Newtown Presbyterian Church Records," 1922, Transcription, New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Irma and Paul Milstein Division of U.S. History, Local History and Genealogy, 5th Avenue and 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York, New York 10018, Marriages 1722 and 1750. Hereinafter cited as "Newtown Presbyterian Records."
- <sup>2</sup>Newtown Town Records 1753-1850 Book 289: page 117, New York City Municipal Archives, 31 Chambers St, Room 103, Manhattan, New York, New York 10007. Hereinafter cited as Newtown Town Records 1753-1850 Book 289.
- <sup>3</sup>Newtown Presbyterian Records, Marriages 1750.
- <sup>4</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup>Kenneth Scott, compiler, *Genealogical Data from New York Administration Bonds 1753-1799* (New York, New York: Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Volume X, 1969), page 82. Hereinafter cited as *Genealogical Data NY Administration Bonds*.
- <sup>6</sup>E. B. O'Callaghan, editor, *The Documentary History of New York, Volumes 1-4* (Albany, New York: Weed, Parsons, & Co, 1849-1851), Volume 3, page 863. Hereinafter cited as *Documentary History of New York*.
- <sup>7</sup>Newtown Town Records 1753-1850 Book 289: page 117.
- <sup>8</sup>William S. Pelletreau, compiler, *Abstracts of Wills in the Surrogate's Office, City of New York, Volumes 1-17, 1665-1801* (New York, New York: Collections of the New York Historical Society, 1893-1909), Volume 8, pages 83-84. Hereinafter cited as *Abstracts Wills Surrogate New York City*.
- <sup>9</sup>William Willis Reese, compiler and Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, editor. *Eighteenth Century Records of the Portion of Dutchess County New York that was included in Rombout Precinct and the original Town of Fishkill* (Poughkeepsie, New York: Dutchess County Historical Society Collections Vol. 6, 1938), page 26. Hereinafter cited as *18th Century Records Dutchess Co NY*.
- <sup>10</sup>Philip Henry Smith, *General History of Dutchess County from 1609 to 1876* (Paling, New York: Published by the Author, 1877), pages 481-482. Hereinafter cited as *History Dutchess Co NY*.
- <sup>11</sup>Worthington Chauncey Ford. "Articles of Association." *Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789. Thirty-Four Volumes.*, Volume 1, 1774 (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1904), 20 October 1774. Hereinafter cited as *Articles of Association*.
- <sup>12</sup>Berthold Fernow, *New York in the Revolution* (1887; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1999), pages 232, 381. Hereinafter cited as *New York in the Revolution*.
- <sup>13</sup>Pension Application File, Department of Veterans Affairs, Record Group 15; *Microfilm Publication M804* (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration), S43615.
- <sup>14</sup>Lineage application of Samuel Gilbert Gorsline, National Number 54373, Sons of the American Revolution, <http://search.ancestry.com/Browse/view.aspx?dbid=2204&path=256.142&sid=&gskw=Samuel+Gorsline>.
- <sup>15</sup>Daughters of the American Revolution, *Madame Brett Homestead* (Beacon, New York: Melzingah Chapter, 1957), page 8, #2376. Hereinafter cited as *Madame Brett Homestead*.
- <sup>16</sup>Samuel Gorsline will (1782-1784), 1784 Probate Samuel Gorsline Ancient Documents File No. 10953 and 10986: Dutchess County New York Surrogate, Dutchess County Archives, 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York 12601. Hereinafter cited as 1784 Probate Samuel Gorsline.
- <sup>17</sup>Pelletreau, *Abstracts Wills Surrogate New York City*, Volume 9, page 295.
- <sup>18</sup>1784 Probate Samuel Gorsline Ancient Documents File No. 10953 and 10986.
- <sup>19</sup>Frank J. Doherty, *The Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York: An Historical and Genealogical Study of All the 18th Century Settlers in the Patent. Volume 5.* (Pleasant Valley, New York: Published by the author, 1999), pages 697-698. Hereinafter cited as *Settlers Beekman Patent*.
- <sup>20</sup>1784 Probate Samuel Gorsline Ancient Documents File No. 10953 and 10986.
- <sup>21</sup>Doherty, *Settlers Beekman Patent*, pages 697-698.
- <sup>22</sup>Pelletreau, *Abstracts Wills Surrogate New York City*, Volume 9, page 295.
- <sup>23</sup>1784 Probate Samuel Gorsline Ancient Documents File No. 10953 and 10986.
- <sup>24</sup>Samuel Gilbert Gorsline. Typed Family History Chart. Battle Creek, Michigan 10 December 1942. NYGB Fam 2008-1839, Folder 1, New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Irma and Paul Milstein Division of U.S. History, Local History and Genealogy, 5th Avenue and 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York, New York 10018.
- <sup>25</sup>Lyndon Perry, Gorsline Family History: online <http://gorslinefamilyhistory.blogspot.com/>.

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<sup>26</sup>Lyle Gorsline, Gorsline Family - the Canadian Branch: online <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/g/o/r/Lyle-A-Gorsline/index.html>.

<sup>27</sup>Perry; Gorsline Family History: online <http://gorslinefamilyhistory.blogspot.com/>.

<sup>28</sup>Ibid.